

the Guam Visitors Bureau, and as Guam's delegate to the South Pacific Conference in Noumea, New Caledonia, in 1969, and as adviser to the U.S. delegation to the South Pacific Commission.

In 1982, Tony served as special assistant to the assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior. He later served as desk officer for American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands and as DOI's field representative in Guam from 1986 until 1994. He also served as acting assistant secretary of the Interior for Territorial and International Affairs.

He served as chairman of Guam's Political Status Education Coordinating Commission, which produced and published the "Haleta" ("roots") series of history textbooks for Guam's public schools. He is a member of the Chamorro Historic Society, the Guam Humanities Council, the Chamorro Heritage Institute Planning Group, the Manenggon Memorial Foundation, the Fena Memorial Committee, the Guam Preservation Trust, the Council on Cultural Tourism, and GVB's subcommittee on Community Development, and is the corporate secretary of the Latte of Freedom Foundation.

Tony still makes time to teach History of Guam courses at the University of Guam and the Guam Community College today. He continues his long membership in the Knights of Columbus, having served as grand knight, deputy grand knight, recorder, and trustee; as well as in the Young Men's League of Guam, for which he has held the positions of director, historian, and chairman of the Council of Elders. He is a past member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Rotary Club of Tumon, and served on the governor's Vision 2001 and Vision 2005 committees on Family Values and Education and Culture.

Mr. Antonio Manibusan Palomo's many contributions to the history, language and culture of Guam are significant, and today we commend him for his lifetime of service to our community.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, we as leaders must face and prepare for the reality that America's nuclear footprint is shrinking and that in the coming years our national priorities will shift to address the looming energy crisis. With that in mind, it is abundantly clear that the mission and purpose of Los Alamos National Laboratory, located in my district, must be diversified to ensure its future permanence and to utilize its full potential for scientific research. I stand resolutely behind LANL, and will continue to fully support the men and women who work there, but they must recognize that the bill before us marks

only the first step of the coming reallocation of resources in the nuclear complex. Only in recognizing, accepting, and ultimately embracing this shift, will the lab ensure that they continue to serve in their leading role in combating existing national security threats as well as others that are sure to emerge.

That is why today, Mr. Chairman, I will be voting in favor of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. In so doing, I am voting for the future of the lab. I am voting for what I believe will be a future as bright as past in helping this country meet its national security challenges. But as I do, I vow to help the leadership at the lab make this diversification a reality. I vow to help the lab remain the pre-eminent lab in the country, home to the best scientists in the world.

Before we vote, however, I would like to briefly recap the steps in the Appropriations process that have brought us to this point today. In May, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water marked up its Fiscal Year 2008 bill and reported it to the full Appropriations Committee. This bill included funding cuts that would affect the core mission of the Lab, which gave me great concern. The bill also postponed funding for the RRW and CMRR, projects I have been skeptical of since first being proposed. I am not the only one skeptical of these programs, which is why this bill also wisely included a provision requiring the Administration to thoroughly evaluate and prepare a plan outlining the specific need for not only these projects, but for our entire nuclear stockpile before authorizing millions more taxpayer dollars.

On the other hand, the bill we considered in committee included an unprecedented and long overdue investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate change research. I applauded the Chairman's vision for these investments, both because it is needed to enhance our nation's security for the future, but also because I firmly believe that the top-notch scientists at LANL have valuable contributions to make in these areas. During this discussion, I received assurances from the Chairman that LANL will have access to these new funds, but they must actively compete for them.

The bill was voice-voted in Committee a few weeks ago and was brought to the floor. During that debate, I led the fight to protect the core mission of the Lab, offering an amendment to restore \$192 million in funding for the Road Runner Supercomputer, the Science campaign, and the Lab's facilities. Not only are these areas needed for the lab to effectively conduct its core mission, but they will also be needed for diversification. However, my amendment was not an endorsement of the status quo regarding our nuclear weapons policy. Unfortunately, my amendment was defeated.

However, during all of this, what became clear was that part of these funding issues for LANL had to do with preparing for conference with the Senate. As the gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. WAMP, stated on the House Floor, "... this is the beginning of the process. I know Senator Domenici is going to weigh in. I love it, because these House leaders have given the House a better position to negotiate this bill from than we have ever had in my tenure here, because we need that leverage. Frankly, the Senate has rolled us on this bill for many years. Not any more. We get fair

treatment. We can go in there and negotiate our priorities and come away with a good product." No one who follows the Appropriations process should be shocked by this negotiating tactic.

In the meantime, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported a bill to the full Senate that provides hundreds of millions of dollars in funding increases for LANL. The Senate has yet to pass their legislation, but when they do, as we know, a conference committee will convene to negotiate the differences between the two versions of the legislation. I am confident that the final conference report will result in the restoration of funding for the core mission of the Lab, just as my amendment would have done.

And I will certainly be working for restoration of these funds through conference. Nevertheless, the process to this point must serve as a signal that change is needed if the funding—and the permanence—of the lab is to be certain. It would be folly to assume that the status quo and a static mission will be enough in the years to come. Instead, I hope the idea of diversification is strongly embraced and pursued by LANL, not only to strengthen the lab and its work force, although that is also important, but because the capacity of the lab to produce scientific greatness in pursuit of solving the gravest threats to our nation and to the world is too important.

I have received assurances from the NNSA that diversifying the mission of the lab is possible, but the leadership of the lab must take the initiative to start the process. In fact, there are ongoing discussions at this time about a possible diversified mission for LANL. As we continue the funding process, it is now up to LANL to decide whether it wants to diversify and thrive, or remain focused only on its current mission, which, as we have seen this year, means an uphill battle. I have strongly advised and urged the leadership at the lab to see that diversification is the only way to ensure the future of the lab. I hope that those at the lab believe the same and that in the very near future we will begin to see a true, substantive move toward this important goal.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION ACT OF 2007

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise to inform my colleagues of legislation I have introduced today to broaden applications for personal health accounts.

The legislation that I have proposed will amend existing Internal Revenue Service Code to permit the purchase of dental care items, including fluoride toothpaste, powered and manual toothbrushes, dental floss, dental cleaners, oral irrigators, and preventive and therapeutic mouth rinses and toothpastes.

Specifically, my proposal adds a definition to the IRS Code for medical care tax treatment to include "products used to diagnose, cure, mitigate, treat, or prevent the onset of tooth decay, periodontal diseases, and conditions ailing the teeth, gums, and mouth or affecting the proper function thereof."

Personal health care accounts are funding arrangements where health care expenses are

paid or reimbursed with funds set aside in pre-tax accounts. These pre-tax contributions can be made by the employer, the employee, or both, depending on the type of account. In recent years, Congress has worked to make these accounts more accessible and easier to manage.

Expanding access to tax free savings accounts is a sensible way to help individuals manage health care costs and have greater control over their own care options. I believe this addition will create better opportunities for dentists and patients to provide and receive better quality dental care, which is especially important in rural and lower-income communities across the country.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROL SHEA-PORTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3043) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Chairman, I rise today in strong support of this amendment which will put a stop to the unacceptable evaluation component of the Upward Bound Program that turns our Nation's students into guinea pigs for the Department of Education.

This evaluation requires that institutions receiving Upward Bound funds, such as the University of New Hampshire, recruit TWICE as many students than can be served, with the intent to deny half of these applicants and use them as a control group—receiving no Upward Bound assistance at all. I find this bait and switch, which comes at the expense of our students, to be offensive, downright cruel, and—at best—unethical.

I recently introduced H.R. 2700 to suspend this study and prevent the other harmful changes the Administration has made to the Upward Bound program. This amendment to prohibit funding for this study is another means by which we can right this wrong.

The goal of Upward Bound is to support our students in their efforts to obtain a college degree. We must not undermine these efforts with this unethical study.

I urge my colleagues to protect the integrity of this program by standing with us, and our students, by supporting the Gwen Moore-Tom Cole-Bobby Scott-Carol Shea-Porter amendment.

UNITED STATES NEEDS TO
INVEST IN FINANCIAL LITERACY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, there is an urgent need for the United States to invest in financial literacy. On June 15, 2007, the Washington Post reported that, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association, “the percentage of U.S. mortgages entering foreclosures in the first three months of the year was the highest in more than 50 years.” With aggressive subprime lenders preying upon unknowledgeable yet eager homeowners, foreclosure rates around the country have reached unprecedented heights.

On June 10, 2007, the New York Times reported that “private loans have become the fast-growing sector of the student finance market, more than tripling over five years to \$17.3 billion in the 2005–2006 school year, according to the College Board.” Yet, in that same article, it was reported that many students fail to understand the risks associated with private loans as opposed to federally subsidized loans. Along those same lines, easy access to credit cards without the understanding of its potential pitfalls has led to the indebtedness of many college students.

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, personal savings for Americans in May 2007 was negative \$139.8 billion, which was an \$18 billion increase from the previous month. The Federal Reserve Board stated that consumer debt has exceeded \$2.4 trillion as of May 2007. According to the 2007 Retirement Confidence Survey conducted by the Employee Benefit Research Institute, it is not registering with American workers that the U.S. retirement system is no longer one of defined benefits but that of defined contributions. In fact, fewer than 50 percent of workers have retirement savings and investments over \$25,000.

These facts are unfortunately not surprising. The results from the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy's 2006 survey showed that of the approximately 5,700 high school seniors nationwide tested, participants scored slightly above 52 percent on a test of very basic financial literacy skills.

The United States must address this growing problem of financial illiteracy. The consequences, as shown by these statistics, could be dire if more is not done. I would encourage the Federal Government to take proactive measures to stem this tide. The Department of Education, in particular, can play a key role in reversing this negative trend by instilling the principles of fiscal discipline while our children are still in their formative years and in fact, can work to incorporate these values into already existing subjects such as mathematics, social studies and business classes.

As a matter of fact, I will soon be introducing the Youth Financial Education Act which would authorize monies for financial literacy through State block grants and through the Fund for the Improvement of Education. I hope to work with other Members of Congress and appropriators to see this important initiative realized.

THE BIPARTISAN IMPORT SAFETY
ACT OF 2007

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, last month, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and toy company RC2 announced a recall of 1.5 million various Thomas & Friends wooden railway toys because they might contain dangerous amounts of lead.

Lead poisoning causes vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions, anemia, loss of appetite, abdominal pain, irritability, fatigue, constipation, difficulty sleeping, headaches and coma. It can even be fatal.

The toys on recall are made in China and are retailed throughout the United States.

In March, a wave of pet deaths revealed toxic chemicals in Chinese-manufactured pet food. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration investigated and nearly 100 brands of pet food made with the ingredient were ordered recalled.

A few weeks ago, consumers were advised to discard all toothpaste made in China after federal health officials found toothpaste containing a poison used in antifreeze.

Then it was Thomas the Tank Engine. Just about every family with young kids in America knows Thomas the Tank Engine well.

On Tuesday, about 40 tubes of potentially toxic toothpaste fraudulently labeled Colgate “Triple Action” were pulled from the shelf of a discount store in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Congress needs to send a clear notice to importers that goods which threaten the safety of kids will be left to rot on America's docks.

That is why I am introducing H.R. 3100, the bipartisan Import Safety Act of 2007, to increase penalties for willful violators of federal regulations on imported goods and increase our commitment to overseas inspections by the FDA and the Commission. This will increase the ability of the U.S. Government to halt the importation of pet food, toothpaste or children's goods that could present a danger to Americans.

33RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, tomorrow marks the 33rd anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion and occupation of Cyprus, which occurred on July 20, 1974. This black anniversary commemorates 33 years too long of suffering and injustice for the people of the Republic of Cyprus.

Thirty-three years ago, Turkish troops invaded Cyprus in flagrant disregard for international law. As a result, an estimated 160,000 true Cypriots were displaced and another 5,000 Cypriots were killed. The current occupied area is notably one of the most highly militarized areas in the world with 43,000 Turkish troops stationed there illegally. In an act of further defiance, in 1983, Turkish Cypriots declared themselves a sovereign nation.